

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17, 19, and 20 are pending in the application. Claim 18 has been canceled. Claims 1-10 and 19 have been amended. The basis for the amendment to claim 1 can be found at page 2, lines 5-9. The amendments to claims 2-10 are stylistic in nature. Claim 19's dependency is amended due to the cancellation of claim 18.

Claims 18 and 19 were objected to as allegedly being improper multiple dependent claims. This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 18 and the amendment of claim 19.

Claims 1, 3, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. The Office Action objected to the use of the terms "derivative" and "modified." Applicants assert that meaning and scope of these terms would be known by one of ordinary skill in the art. The specification discusses the meaning of the terms, for example, at page 3, line 23 to page 6, line 8 and at page 7, lines 8-21. A modified fatty acid is partially or completely hydrogenated. Fatty acid derivatives are those where the fatty acid component has fully or partially undergone esterification, amidation, or reduction of the acid groups. With this background, one of ordinary skill in the art would readily understand the meaning and scope of "derivative" and "modified" in the context of the instant claims. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

The Office Action also alleges that Claim 8 is unclear because it "depends from claim 1 which requires rosin but, claim 8 does not account for said rosin." We believe that this rejection is obviated by the amendment of claim 8 to use the term "rosin."

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Claims 1-17 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by German Patent Application No. 19531849 (the 849 application). For a reference to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, "the identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Further, "a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The cited art does not anticipate any claim.

Amended claim 1 states that the wax component must be a solid at 20°C. The Office Action cites the use of the methyl ester of myristic acid (also known as methyl myristate and the methyl ester of tetradecanoic acid) as a wax component in the 849 application. Submitted pages from the 79th edition of the CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics (1998-1999) and the 2002-03 Aldrich catalog show that methyl myristate is a liquid at 20°C. For at least this reason, the cited reference does not disclose a mixture of the instant invention. Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

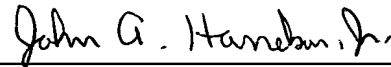
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Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, an early and favorable reconsideration of the rejections and an allowance of all of pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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